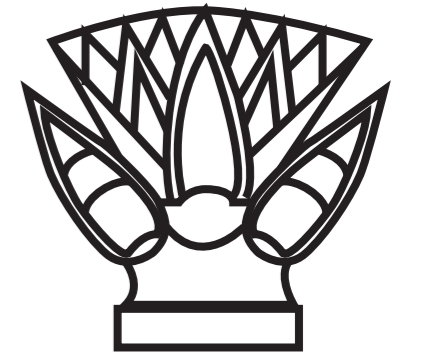


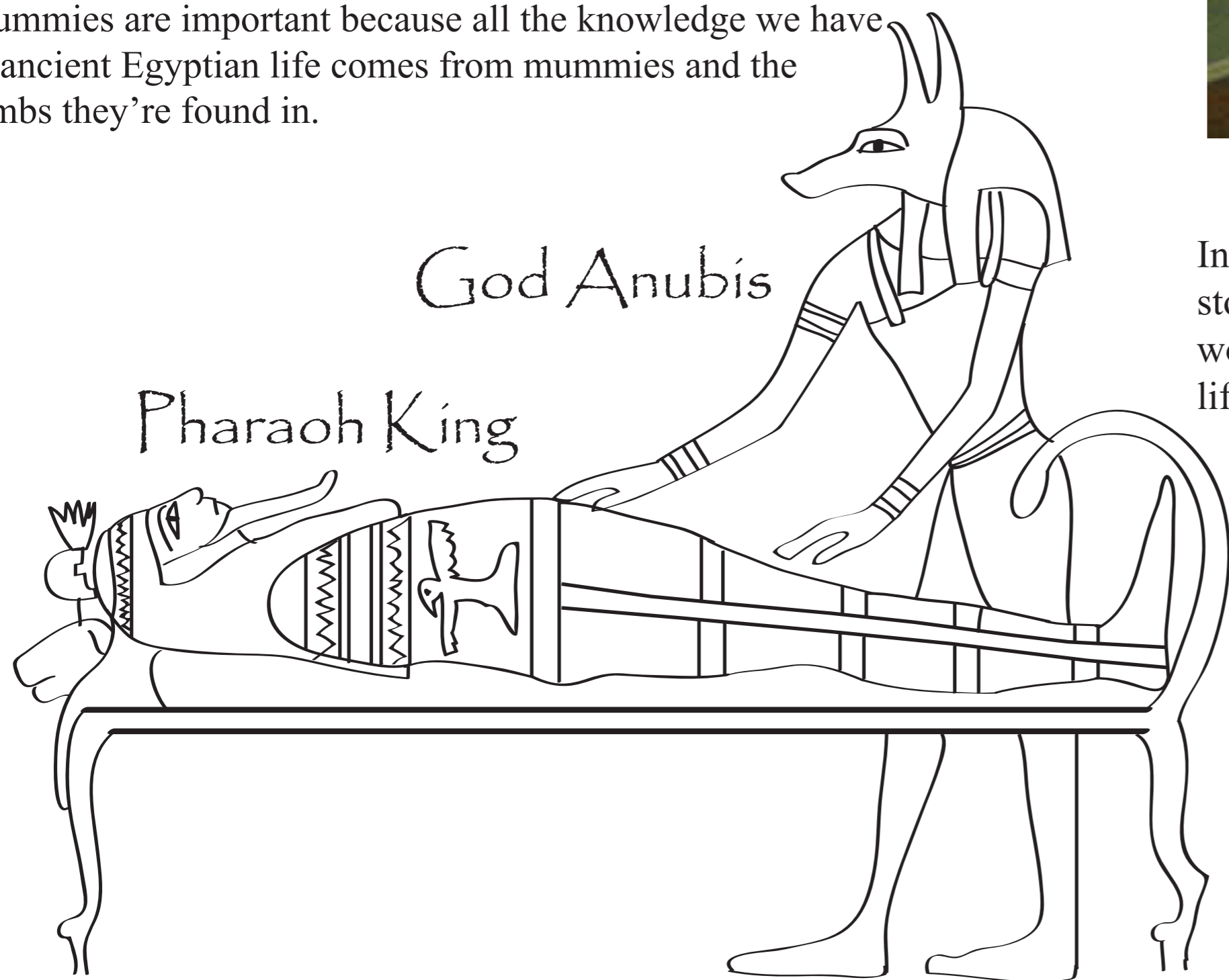
Ancient Egyptian Life Mummies



The process of mummification was one of honor and deep religious function. In ancient Egypt, the dead were mummified so that the “Ka,” or soul, could recognize its earthly form in the afterlife. As in many religions, the afterlife was taken seriously in ancient Egyptian culture. The mummification process was extremely detailed, which led to incredibly preserved remains, even thousands of years later. Natron, a naturally occurring substance in dry climates like Egypt, was used to dry out the body’s flesh once the organs were removed. Then the body would be oiled and wrapped up in thin strips of linen.

Everyone who could afford it was mummified, from the everyday person up to the pharaoh. Pharaohs and high ranking people, like pyramid architects or temple priests, were placed in to sarcophagi and tombs.

Mummies are important because all the knowledge we have of ancient Egyptian life comes from mummies and the tombs they’re found in.



Canopic Jars

In the process of mummification, the organs were taken out of the body. The liver, stomach, intestines and lungs were placed in to jars. The jars were made of clay, wood or limestone. Egyptians believed that people lived on in spirit in the afterlife just as they did in life. For this, the four organs were also sometimes mummified and placed back into the body. They believed the heart carried the “Ka” into the afterlife so it remained intact in the body and was never removed.

